

maintain pendency of this application.

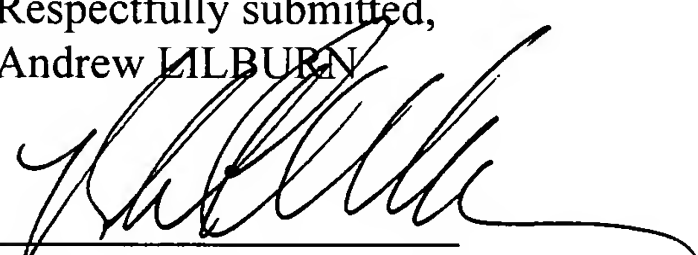
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, the cancellation of claims 34 - 49, directed to the subject matter of the non-elected invention, without prejudice or disclaimer leaves only claims 1 - 33 on appeal before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

Further, the above amendments to the claims have not been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application and all the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrew LILBURN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Neil F. Greenblum  
Reg. No. 28,394

*RF 35,813*

May 3, 2004  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191